



## Arizona Commission on the Arts

### Arts Education Project Grant

#### Tips for a Successful Arts Education Project

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##### Project Planning

- ✍ ✍ Be sure to give yourself and your planning partners enough time to develop a thoughtful, engaging project. Planning ahead allows time to ensure project success.
- ✍ ✍ You should contact the artist directly to discuss your mutual goals and to brainstorm creative approaches.
- ✍ ✍ Involve as many people and perspectives as possible in laying the plans for the project. Consider inviting students, principals, social service organization representatives, parents, local artists and community members to the project planning meetings.
- ✍ ✍ Make sure that the artist is involved each step of the way. This ensures that the project lives on after the artist has completed the project.
- ✍ ✍ When designing the project, be sure to take into consideration how many learning experiences can reasonably be presented each day (classes, performances, lecture-demonstrations).

##### Communication with the Artist

- ✍ ✍ Check with the artists to assure they are willing to do performances on a day when they have had to travel a long distance.
- ✍ ✍ Check to see if they are able to do a performance when they have had a full load of community activities. Allow enough time for an artist to set up and break down in between activities. The artist can be your guide in determining how much time is needed.
- ✍ ✍ Ensure that there are volunteers or staff available to assist artists in moving equipment and finding their way around in your community.
- ✍ ✍ Help the artist to find lodgings that are affordable and allow for peaceful rest.
- ✍ ✍ Make sure that the facilities where the artist will work are adequate.
- ✍ ✍ Once you have negotiated and agreed upon the services and fees, a contract must be drawn up and signed. Either party can generate the contract, but both parties must sign it. Any change to the contract requires agreement by both parties.

## Teacher Preparation

- ✍✍ Teaching and learning in the arts engages students in art making, inspires them to explore and develop ideas, and gives them tools to gain new perspectives and deeper understanding of concepts.
- ✍✍ The teaching process is rich in opportunities for perception, production and reflection in the arts for both teacher and student. Much of teaching is a blend of various arts talents. To help create a focus and an intention to the arts project, it will be useful to define a few specific understanding goals for your students: What do you want your students to understand from this project and what will serve as evidence that they understand it?
- ✍✍ One useful process for curriculum planning is called Backward Mapping. It consists of three general stages to identify the understanding goals, evidence of understanding (ongoing assessment) and the learning experiences and instruction of a unit, thematic study, or larger curriculum.

### Step One

Identify: What are your understanding goals in detail? What should students know, understand and be able to do? What enduring understandings are desired? What are the key or essential questions derived from these goals? What big ideas are worthy of understanding and are implied in the goals?

### Step Two

Identify: What is the evidence of understanding? How will you know the students really understand the big ideas? What will serve as their performances of understanding and as collected evidence and documentation of understanding?

### Step Three

Identify: What will need to be taught and coached, and how can it best be taught in light of the understanding goals? Now plan the learning experiences and instruction.

- ✍✍ The Arts Standards refine what students should know and be able to do in the arts. Use the Arts Standards document - available on the Arizona Department of Education web site: [www.ade.state.az.us/standards/arts](http://www.ade.state.az.us/standards/arts) . There is also a fact sheet about the Arts Standards available on the Commission's web site at [www.azarts.gov](http://www.azarts.gov)
- ✍✍ Arts in Education staff are available to assist you if you have any questions as you plan and implement your arts education project.
- ✍✍ Complete the Final Report Form online through EGOR <http://www.culturegrants-az.org/> no later than two weeks after the completion of the residency (available online).